

Abstract

A workstation for integrating two or more automated analyzers. The
5 workstation includes a sample rack handler assembly, having a single common sample
rack input area for loading sample racks for the two or more automated analyzers, and
a sample rack bypass area for passing sample racks to be processed by one of the two
or more automated analyzers. The workstation also includes a sample aliquoting
assembly, having a sample pipetter station for aliquoting samples into aliquot vessels
10 for processing by another one of the two or more automated analyzers. The
workstation further includes an internal shuttle for shuttling the sample racks between
the sample rack input area, the sample rack bypass area, and the sample pipetter
station, and an external shuttle for shuttling the sample racks between the sample rack
input area, the sample rack bypass area, and the one of the two or more automated
15 analyzers. In addition, the workstation includes a pick-and-place mechanism for
transporting the aliquot vessels between the sample pipetter station and the other one
of the two or more automated analyzers. A single common control console is provided
for the workstation and the two or more automated analyzers.